

Message Text

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67

ACTION PM-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 ISO-00 L-03 CIAE-00 COME-00

DOT-00 EB-07 FMC-01 INR-07 NSAE-00 CG-00 OFA-01

DLOS-04 SS-15 NSC-05 /067 W
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R 122320Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4311

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

CNO WASHDC

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

C O N F I D E N T I A L SINGAPORE 0161

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MILI SN, US

SUBJECT: EXEMPTION OF WARSHIPS FROM PORT DUES

REFS: A) STATE 006096; B) DAO SINGAPORE 300131Z DEC 75 (NOTAL)

1. REFTEL A REQUESTS CLARIFICATION OF PORT DUES TO BE LEVIED.
THE GOS NOTE DATED DEC. 22, 1975 AND RECEIVED DEC. 29 LEAVES
SOME QUESTIONS AS TO EXACT FEES. HOWEVER, INTENT TO TREAT WARSHIPS
AND COMMERCIAL VESSELS IN IDENTIFICAL MANNER IS CLEAR. TEXT OF
NOTE AND PERTINENT EXTRACTS OF PORT DUES SCHEDULE ATTACHED TO
NOTE BY SEPTTEL.

2. TYPES OF CHARGES. OF THESE LISTED ALL EXCEPT TWO ARE FOR VALID
COMMERCIAL SERVICES (PILOTAGE, GARBAGE)
FOR WHICH USN SHIPS HAVE CONTRACTED COMMERCIALY IN THE PAST
AND INTEND TO CONTINUE TO DO SO. THE TWO EXCEPTIONS TO CHARGES
FOR SERVICE ARE:

A. PORT DUES PAYABLE IN RESPECT OF BEING IN PORT (OCCUPYING A
BERTH). THIS IS A CHARGE NEVER BEFORE LEVIED UPON US WARSHPS
IN SINGAPORE. WHILE WE WOULD EXPECT TO PAY FOR SSE AND SERVICES
PROVIDED AT A COMMERCIAL WHARF, THIS CHARGE WILL APPLY TO SHIPS
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LYING AT ANCHOR IN THE HARBOR, NEVER BEFORE LEVIED.

B. PILOTAGE DUES. THESE ARE DUES TO THE PORT FOR PILOTAGE AND NOT THE HOURLY PILOTAGE RATE (ESSENTIALLY A SURCHARGE). PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE WITH USN SHIPS HAS BEEN THAT THIS SURCHARGE HAS BEEN PAID WHEN A PILOT IS USED. THE NEW RULE, HOWEVER, REQUIRES PAYMENT OF THE DUES WHETHER OR NOT A PILOT IS TAKEN.

3. WE BELIEVE THAT THIS IS NOT A HIGH LEVEL GOS DECISION, BUT RATHER A PORT OF SINGAPORE AUTHORITY (PSA) REVENUE TIGHTENING DRILL, PROBABLY PROMPTED BY UK/GOS NEGOTIATIONS CONCERNING THE NAVAL BERTHS IN SEMBAWANG. WE BELIEVE THAT BERTH FEES WILL NOT AFFECT NAVAL BERTHS REMAINING UNDER UK CONTROL. HOWEVER, UK HIGH COMMISSION HAS ALREADY SOUGHT CLARIFICATION THIS POINT.

4. WE HAVE AGREED INFORMALLY WITH UK HICOM THAT IT WILL LEAD IN CLARIFYING OVERALL PSA POLICY ON THIS MATTER. WE QUESTIONED WISDOM OF UK APPROACHING GOS ON SPECIFIC APPLIABILITY OF DUES TO NAVAL BERTHS, BELIEVING IN THIS CASE UK AND US SHOULD SIMPLY ASSUME THAT FEES WOULD NOT AFFECT NAVAL BERTHS UNDER UK CONTROL. REF B WAS DAO SINGAPORE REQUEST FOR BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON WHICH TO DEVELOP A COORDINATED APPROACH HERE WITH UK/AUS/NZ TO GOS CONCERNING THE LEVY OF DUES FOR ANCHORAGE AND/OR BERTHING AT NON-COMMERCIAL FACILITIES.

5. REQUEST EARLIEST ANSWER REF B SINCE FIRST USN VESSEL BECOMING LIABLE FOR PORT DUES SCHEDULED ANCHOR MOW ANCHORAGE 15 JANUARY.
HOLDRIDGE

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Message Attributes

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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Authority: greeneet
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Executive Order: GS
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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04 MAY 2006

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